



View of modern new City Hall located in Civic Center. New Courthouse, police station, and Victor E. Benstead Municipal pool are also located here.

Literature and Photos Courtesy of Chamber of Commerce

## TORRANCE

*Torrance is Southern California's planned industrial city, and is strategically located on three major rail lines, and is just between the great Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor, one of the world's finest man-made harbors, and the Los Angeles International Airport.*

*The original city was founded in 1912 by Jared Sidney Torrance and a group of industrialists and bankers who were seeking a site to expand the Union Tool Company, now the National Supply Company, one of the city's largest industries. The site for the new city was acquired from the Dominquez Land Company in 1911 when Torrance and associates purchased 3500 acres of the storied Rancho San Pedro which nestled under the beautiful Palos Verdes Hills.*

*Following the establishment of the new Union Tool Company plant here in 1912, other foresighted industrialists saw the advantages of locating in Torrance, until today it is one of the prime manufacturing centers of the Southern California area.*

*Torrance was incorporated as a city in 1921 when still a moderate little manufacturing center whose workers lived in the area now generally described as "Down town Torrance".*

*The growth of Torrance, both industrially and in population during the years, has brought it to prominence in the Southland among Los Angeles County cities. It's growth since the end of World War II has been phenomenal, and it is expected to continue.*

*The 1940 Federal Census showed the population of Torrance to be 9,550. A special census in 1947 put the city's population at 13,161; a 1948 census showed the city had grown to 17,450. From that point until today, the population has literally boomed. The 1950 census showed the city had reached 22,241. Special census enumerations later indicated the growth as follows: January 1, 1952---31,834. November 4, 1953--44,914. September 17, 1955---67,459. February 1, 1959---97,995.*

*As of June 2, 1959, city officials estimate that the population exceeds 100,000 persons.*

*Today, Torrance is the center of the trade area totaling a half of a million persons, and it offers ideal facilities for commercial, residential, and industrial expansion.*